

## EXTRA SESSION FORECASTS

## Many Persons Interested in Its Probable Length.

tariff debates exceed to last until July—Speaker Cannon may hasten matters in House, but Senators will take all the time they desire.

Next to the question, "Where's your seat for the inaugural parade?" the most popular form of greeting now heard in Washington is, "How long will it take Congress to revise the tariff?" Almost everybody in the national capital is interested in trying to find out the probable length of the tariff session. Members of Congress want to know so that they may make their political plans for the summer, says the Washington correspondent of the New York Post. Their families want to know, so that vacation plans may be arranged. Every business man who comes here wants to know, because he realizes that unsettled business conditions will prevail as long as the Senate and House are "tinkering with the schedules." And, of course, the people of Washington, especially the merchants and hotel men, want to know, because Congress is the great asset of commercial Washington.

Speaker Cannon has been quoted as saying that he sees no reason why the special session should not adjourn by the middle of May, or the first of June. If Mr. Cannon ever made this statement, he was not serious. His closest friends will be out of the way as early as June 1. They are predicting that the lawmakers of the nation will be fortunate if they are able to return to their respective districts to explain to Fourth-of-July assemblages the wonderful national policy which the United States has adopted.

If Mr. Cannon could manage the Senate as easily as he and his associates control the House, an adjournment by May 1 would not be impossible. But the Senate has no purpose to rush through a tariff bill. Senator Aldrich and the other republican leaders are not making any vacation plans for the early summer. They purpose to stay in Washington until they get a bill that suits them. Under the Senate rules, tariff legislation cannot be driven through under whip and spur method. Two or three determined and dissatisfied men can prolong the session almost indefinitely.

## THE PRESENT PROGRAMME.

If the present programme is carried out the Payne bill will reach the Senate about April 15. This means that from fifteen to twenty days will be devoted to debate on the bill in the House. On the day that the new Congress meets, which will be March 15, Chairman Payne and his republican colleagues on the ways and means committee will be ready to introduce their bill. It will be referred to the committee on ways and means, and the democrats on that committee will be called in and asked how they like all of it, and they will be ready to propose a substitute bill. It is the hope of Speaker Cannon that the Payne bill will be reported to the House within a week after the Congress meets.

No agreement has been reached as to the procedure in the House. Doubtless it will be necessary to make the power of the committee on ways and means work out a plan whereby only one amendment can be offered. If this is done, Champ Clark, the minority leader, will be recognized to offer the democratic bill as a substitute for the Payne measure. The programme will be to vote down the proposed substitute and put through the committee bill without amendment.

## A PERIL OF THE PAYNE BILL.

The best parliamentarians in the House say they do not see how the Payne bill can be put through at all if it is opened to general amendment from the floor. This is the explanation they offer. The Payne bill represents months of study and investigation. It has been framed more carefully than any other tariff bill in our history. In its entirety it may not be satisfactory to a single republican Congressman, but it will represent the best compromise measure that the ways and means committee can frame. Now, they say, to permit the House to vote a change in the steel schedule, for instance, would mean a complete overthrow of the compromise arrangement. A modification of the steel schedule might require a redrafting of some other schedule. In other words, to use the language of one of the House leaders, "A tariff must be made in committee. Any effort to make such a bill, in the excitement of debate on the floor of the House, would result in a measure which would be so objectionable that the business interests of the country would laugh at it."

Of course, free debate will be permitted. Perhaps five or six hours a day for two weeks, or maybe three weeks, will be allowed the republican and democratic orators to explain their position on the tariff. When the amended bill comes back from the Senate, when the conference committee is appointed there will be a temporary lull in both the Senate and House. That from two to three weeks will be required for the conference committee to reach an agreement is predicted by those who are familiar with the tariff beliefs of Senator Aldrich and Chairman Payne.

## THE SENATE SHARE IN THE WORK.

The Senate finance committee will begin active work on the tariff bill as soon as the Payne measure is made public. Only short sessions of the Senate will be held until the bill comes over from the House. As soon as the bill reaches the Senate there will be nothing for the House to do except to meet every third day and adjourn. There will be another big fight in the House when the amended bill comes back from the Senate. When the conference committee is appointed there will be a temporary lull in both the Senate and House. That from two to three weeks will be required for the conference committee to reach an agreement is predicted by those who are familiar with the tariff beliefs of Senator Aldrich and Chairman Payne.

## Burlington Animal Fertilizers

ARE THE KIND YOU SHOULD USE.

Here is what a well-known Burlington Farmer writes:

BURLINGTON FERTILIZER CO., Burlington, Vermont.

Gentlemen: Answering your inquiry as to how I liked the Burlington Brands of Fertilizers, will say, they have proven satisfactory in all ways.

Of course, the main question is whether it makes things grow? It certainly does. My corn crop this year is by far the best in years. I believe this is due not only to the growth producing powers of the fertilizer, but also to the fact that it runs perfectly from the machine, so every hill receives a proper and equal amount. This is an important feature of any fertilizer and one often lacking. If the fertilizer does not run good from the machine, it will not be distributed evenly and an uneven stand of corn will result.

All in all, it is the most satisfactory fertilizer I have ever used. Respectfully,

(Signed) H. R. THOMAS.

We are putting on the market, at a reasonable cost, a Fertilizer with better than the average crop producing qualities. Our goods have made many friends in the past two years and will make one of you, if you will try them the coming season.

Responsible Agents wanted in every town.

BURLINGTON FERTILIZER CO., NORTH AVENUE, BURLINGTON, VT.

## HEAVY PRECIPITATION.

Last Month's Fall Exceeded That of Any February in 26 Years.

R. A. Dyke, assistant observer, temporarily in charge of the local station of the United States weather bureau, reports a mean temperature for February of 20 degrees, with a maximum of 48 and a minimum of 14 below zero on the 1st. The mean temperature for February of 1908 was 14 degrees and the mean for February of 1907 was 11 degrees. The mean for the month for the last 26 years is 13.4 degrees. It was in February of last year that the phenomenally low temperature of 27 below zero occurred. The precipitation, which includes rain and melted snow, amounted to 4.18 inches, the greatest for any February in the last 26 years, the average February precipitation for that period being 3.61 inches. The snow fall amounted to 15.5 inches, and precipitation occurred on 13 days. The prevailing wind was from the south, the total movement 827 miles, the average hourly velocity 13.1 miles and the maximum velocity 48 miles per hour, from the west on the 4th. The month was made up of nine clear, five partly cloudy and 14 cloudy days. Sleet fell on the 19th, 15th and 16th, and a fog was noted on the 20th.

## A FRIEND IN NEED.

Vermont Congressman Vouched for Honesty of Burlington Lawyer.

The friends of a well-known lawyer and banker, who is also a persistent votary of the automobile and a director of the Champlain Transportation company, but who shall be nameless, are enjoying considerable fun at his expense as the result of his experience in Washington. A member of the Vermont delegation, who happened in at the New Willard Hotel at Washington the other morning, saw the Burlington coming out of the elevator with a guardian on either side of him. The national lawmaker hurried up to see what was happening and found that the Burlingtonian was being rushed off to the station house. The guardsman said that they found him trying various doors in the New Willard Hotel when they took him to task. He insisted that he was hunting for his wife, but had forgotten the number of his room and had become lost. They did not put any stock in that yarn and took him for just a common marauder. After a good deal of explanation the member of the delegation succeeded in having him released and took him to his desk, where it was discovered that he had been actually waiting for him for a long time and had begun to think he had lost him for good.

The incident will remind many of the experience which another Burlington lawyer had at a reception in honor of President Roosevelt in this city a few years ago, when he was closely watched by the secret service men until they were assured that he was harmless.

## Mr. Jordan's Money Talked.

Expended \$35 for L. & M. Paint to fix up his house. If for sale it will fetch a good price. The painters said it was the 3 gallons of oil they mixed with 4 gallons of L. & M. that did the job at one-third the cost than ever before. Its coloring is bright, beautiful and lasting. It won't have to be painted again for 12 to 15 years, because the L. & M. Paint is Metal Zinc Oxide combined with White Lead and wears and covers like gold.

SOLD BY: R. E. Brown, North Williston; S. E. Wilson, Fairfax; H. M. Hull & Son, Hinesburg; E. E. Riggs, Winooski; F. H. Flagg & Son, Richmond; W. S. Nay & Co., Underhill; C. I. Hatch & Co., Waterbury.

## WIFE'S LIABILITY FOR DEBT.

(From the New England Greeter and Tradesman.)

We hope that the Massachusetts Legislature will vote favorably on the bill now before it making a married woman's obligation jointly liable with her husband for debts contracted for the necessities of life which includes, of course, groceries and provisions.

This was offered as an amendment to the existing law. The present Massachusetts law is framed for the purpose of protecting a wife having money or property before marriage from an indigent or spendthrift husband. It is not a statute law, but the common law. Under the common law, which is really the old English law, if a woman before marriage is possessed of money, for example, that money becomes the property of the husband immediately after marriage, and he may use it as he sees fit, without consulting the wife in any way. It very often happened that the entire fortune of the wife, which belonged to her before marriage, was squandered by her spendthrift husband, and it was for the protection of women in such cases that the present statute law was enacted which protects the property of the wife so that property standing in the name of a woman, whether before or after marriage cannot be levied upon to satisfy the debts of her husband or during his life, even for the support of the family, because the husband alone is responsible for the support of his family and for supplies furnished for that purpose.

The intent and the proposition of this law was perfectly sound, but it has been and is very largely taken advantage of for dishonest and very often fraudulent purposes. It is a matter of everyday occurrence; in fact, such transactions probably take place every hour of every day in the year that property, personal or real, is transferred to the wife simply for the purpose of avoiding creditors' claims. In that case the creditor cannot levy upon the property standing in the wife's name. The presumption is that property, whether standing in the name of the husband or wife, is the joint product of them both, and it is only

## VERMONT TRADE REPORT.

Bradtrees' Finds Conditions for February to Have Been Fairly Good.

Reports to Bradtrees' during the month of February, 1909, have on the whole been of a satisfactory nature, as compared with the same period last year. Manufacturing plants in certain lines have been employed full time but in other business has shown no change. Labor is fairly well employed, the percentage of unemployed having not changed much. Lumbering operations are still carried on in the woods successfully as there is plenty of snow. The general wholesale trade in staple articles, such as groceries, boots and shoes, and garments is reported fully as good as could be looked for at this period of the year. The larger places are the points where more favorable reports emanate, while the country towns report that merchants are more conservative. Reports from farmers show they are not spending much money as is usual at this time of year. This is attributed in part to the far-reaching effects of the drought of the late summer and fall of last year, following which many of the farmers reduced the number of cattle usually kept.

Plans are now being made to gather the maple sugar crop. The demand for maple sugar equipment has been heavy this season and with suitable conditions it is anticipated a large crop will be harvested. As returns from this crop commence to come in, it is expected it will materially assist trade in both country and city places. The stormy weather during the month interfered with a large volume of business among retail merchants, the heavy fall of snow during the latter part of the month making it difficult for individuals in outlying districts to reach trade centers. Collections have been more or less uneven and with the close of the month considerable complaint has been heard.

Failure reports for February show four bankruptcies, with total liabilities of \$7,675.20 and assets of \$5,627.51, also two compromises. The same month last year gave three voluntary bankruptcies and three involuntary ones, while February of 1907 showed five voluntary bankruptcies and one assignment, not as many firms were recorded for the month last closed. There were four with an aggregate loss of \$16,000, as against eleven for the same month last year with an approximate loss of \$25,000. More activity has been noted in the forming of domestic corporations, nine having been chartered during February with aggregate authorized capital of \$257,000, as against two with authorized capital of \$1,000 during the same month last year.

## A NATURAL POSTURE.

Photographer to young man: "It will make a much better picture if you put your hands in your pockets."

The father: "What! It would be much more natural if he had his hand in my pocket—Lustre Heit."



## Sale of Exquisite German China

The China subject is close to the heart of every woman—particularly if she is married and keeping house—or hopes to be soon.

That is the reason our store is thronged with enthusiastic women whenever we advertise a sale. This sale will prove no exception.

Everything is attractive and new—this year's styles—and a splendid saving is effected in every purchase.

If you have any wedding presents to purchase shortly buy this week, and secure something better for the money than

Remember we sell you 10 rolls Side Wall Paper, 32 yards border, 6 rolls ceiling for 54 cents, and all quality in same proportion this week at the

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## INAUGURATION TODAY

William Howard Taft Will Simply Repeat History When He Takes Office.

## AN AMERICAN CEREMONY

Washington Devised the General Plan of Inaugural Ceremony—Worked Them Out After He Arrived in New York—History of Other Inaugurations.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 25.—History again will repeat itself next Thursday when William Howard Taft bows his head over the Holy Bible and takes the solemn obligation which shall make him, for a stated period, the Chief Magistrate of the United States.

The ceremony of the induction of a President into office is distinctly American. Conceived in the minds and hearts of the nation's fathers, while they yet were in the throes of a great revolution, it is grand in its motive—sublime in its simplicity. Through the lapse of years, since the establishment of the American government, substantial change has been made in the ceremonial form, although elaborate and beautiful accoutrements of government have become notable features of this most important of American functions.

In the time of Taft, as in the time of Washington, the spectacle bears the same simple impressiveness. Here no Emperor, or King, or Dictator, arrogating to himself the right of succession or monarchical expediency, yet on the powers of government; but the creature of a willing, enthusiastic and homogeneous people taking upon himself through the expression of his peers, the responsibility of carrying out their mandates and directing the execution of their will. Yesterday he was one of a hundred million people, today, yet one of the people, but chosen for a brief time to direct their destinies and to protect and defend their nation.

It was Washington who, to a large extent, devised the plan of a President's Inauguration. In this respect as in others, Taft has stood the test of time. It will endure, too, for so long as the nation may live, in its original form of beautiful and impressive simplicity.

## WASHINGTON'S TRIUMPHAL MARCH.

Washington was inducted into office at New York. At the time of notification of election, he was residing at his beautiful home, Mount Vernon. He proceeded to the city of the nation on horseback, in coaches and in eight oared barges. His journey was a triumphal march. No such scenes of enthusiasm ever had been witnessed in this country as attended his progress. The country people gave him hearty welcome, the citizens of Philadelphia, the citizens of New York, the streets and buildings elaborately and brightly decorated. He rode in a splendid milk-white charger beneath triumphal arches, and in towns and hamlets farther east his pathway was strewn with flowers by women and children.

Details of the ceremony attendant upon the induction of Taft into office were worked out after his arrival in New York. It took place in the old Federal Building, which then was the seat of the Congress, and the oath was administered by Chancellor Livingston. The first President was waited upon by committees of the House and Senate at his temporary abiding place and an escort of regular United States troops accompanied him to the "Capitol." He was driven in a handsome coach, and as he had no predecessor, he was alone in the carriage. When the announcement was made formally that Washington had taken the oath, which made him the first President of the United States, the multitude waiting outside of the building gave itself up to an enthusiastic demonstration. Speeches were delivered and patriotic songs were sung, and that night there was a display of fireworks.

## OTHER INAUGURATIONS.

The second inauguration of Washington took place in Philadelphia. While the ceremony was more elaborate, in its accomplishments, than the first had been, it remained, as always, in its essential form, simple and impressive. Washington was conveyed to the capital in a handsome coach drawn by six white horses. His attire was notably elegant, being of black velvet, with diamond-studded buckles, silk hose and cocked hat.

Four years later, John Adams was inaugurated as President also in Philadelphia. Apprehension had been expressed that the young government would be unable to withstand the strain of a change of presidents; but the result was a superb vindication of the wisdom of the fathers. Washington passed the reins of government to his successor with a sumptuous grace and willingness and wisdom that had characterized his every public action.

The real test of the government's institutions came four years later when Thomas Jefferson became President. He was not elected by the people, but by the House of Representatives. The election resulted in a tie and the House of Representatives exercised its constitutional prerogative of choosing the President. The contest in the House was very bitter; but again the nation withstood the strain magnificently.

## FIRST INAUGURATION IN WASHINGTON.

"The Sage of Monticello," as Jefferson was affectionately termed, was the first President to be inaugurated in Washington, the seat of government again having been changed. Accompanied by only a few friends, he rode on horseback from his home to Washington. He was joined by a small detachment of cavalry which escorted him into the city.

He went, unaccompanied in his carriage, to the Capitol, not because he had no predecessor, but because President Adams, embittered by the result of the action of the House, left the city early in the day, declining to await the new President. The inaugural ceremony took place in the old Senate Chamber, the oath of office being administered by Chief Justice Marshall. At its conclusion, the new President proceeded to the White House. According to contemporaneous accounts "a vast concourse" of

about a thousand people stood in the gardens, fields and strips of woodland along Pennsylvania Avenue and gave Jefferson enthusiastic greeting. As Washington was nearly inaccessible in those days, celebrations of the inauguration were held in many cities and towns throughout the country.

It is reported that a throng of ten thousand people assembled on the east front of the Capitol to witness the inauguration of President Madison. An immense crowd that was to Washington in those days. Regular troops and militia formed the nucleus of a parade, which was the first real inaugural procession. The ceremony was concluded with a reception at the White House, at which former President Jefferson was a prominent figure.

## EAGLES FLEW OVER THE CAPITOL.

President Monroe was the first to take the oath of office on a stand in the east front of the Capitol, midway between the Senate and House of Representatives. He had announced that he proposed to have the obligation administered in the hall of the House, but the Senate objected. The result of the wrangle that ensued was that the ceremony took place in the open air, as it takes place now. It was regarded as an omen of good that American eagles flew majestically over the Capitol at the time of Monroe's inauguration.

The struggle over the election of John Quincy Adams by the House of Representatives was so long that the inauguration had to be postponed until the latter part of March but it was the most elaborate ceremony that yet had been held in Washington.

The inauguration of Andrew Jackson in 1829 was a notable ceremony. It probably would have been even more spectacular than it was had the President not suffered the loss of his wife shortly before. As it was, however, Washington gave evidence of his modesty and his patriotism and his devotion to duty. The President that day occupied a carriage constructed from a part of the hull of the frigate Constitution.

Twenty thousand spectators were bunched along the line of march at the inauguration of President Van Buren. The ceremony attendant upon the inauguration, however, had no specially distinctive features.

At the inauguration of President William Henry Harrison, for the first time, citizen soldiers from the various States participated in the ceremonies. In the inaugural parade elaborate campaign devices were used, the log cabin being a prominent feature. The protective devices, on which President Harrison had conducted his campaign, was illustrated by working beams and other machinery illustrative of the progress of American industry. General Harrison rode on horseback to the Capitol and returned to the White House in a coach provided to him by the city of Baltimore. It was estimated that seventy-five thousand people witnessed the ceremony.

Shortly a month later Vice President Tyler was called upon to take the oath of office as President. President Harrison having passed to his reward. The ceremony of induction of President Tyler was conducted in his own home in Washington without pomp or display of any kind in view of the brief stricken city and country.

## PRESIDENT POLK DISAPPOINTED.

The inauguration of President Polk was to an extent a personal disappointment to him as the weather was execrable. Polk was fond of display although his tastes were not specially military. The inaugural procession, therefore, was somewhat heterogeneous. It included not only the military, but members of his cabinet, the clergy of the District of Columbia, the professors and students of Georgetown College and what was known as the Fairfax cavalry, a old glove Virginia regiment, representatives of the best families in the old Dominion.

President Zachary Taylor was not inaugurated on the grounds of Annapolis, but falling on a Sunday. The old right or was fond of some ceremony and the inaugural procession was one of the finest, up to that time, that had been seen in the country.

Millmore, through the death of President Taylor, came into the office of the President. His second inauguration, although the oath of office was administered to him in the usual way before the Congress.

## THE LINCOLN INAUGURAL.

When Lincoln came into the presidency the country throughout was trembling with apprehension. For the first time in the history of the United States, regular troops had been ordered to Washington, not for display, but for protection. Although Lincoln himself expressed no fear, extraordinary precautions were taken to preserve his personal safety.

When he delivered his inaugural address on the east front of the Capitol in the presence of an immense throng, his rival Stephen A. Douglas stood at his side and held his hat. Following the formal inaugural ceremony, Lincoln tendered to the people an elaborate reception at the White House. His second inauguration followed the greatest international conflict known to history. Elaborate precautions were taken to insure the President's safety, yet many were the misadventures as to the outcome.

The induction of Andrew Johnson into the office of President following the assassination of Lincoln, was conducted in the private room of a hotel. No ceremony attended it.

The greatest spectacular display made up to that time was at the inauguration of President Grant. It was practically a military demonstration, and although magnificent in all of its features, it moved on as if by the refusal of his predecessor to ride with Grant to the Capitol in the same carriage. It was a bleak, cold and dismal day on which Grant was inaugurated the second time. The demonstration attending the ceremony, however, was notably fine notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather.

Many visiting organizations declined on account of the repellent weather, to participate in the parade, and many persons who did take part in it, including some naval cadets, paid for their patriotism with their lives.

On account of the manner of the election of Rufus B. Hayes, it was deemed necessary, as in the case of Lincoln, to exercise the utmost precautions to insure his personal safety. The oath of office was administered to him in private on the 2d of March, but the ceremony was repeated on a stand at the east front of the Capitol on March 5th. When Garfield entered the Senate Chamber on the 4th, just prior to taking the oath of office, one of the first men to greet him was General Hancock, the unsuccessful democratic candidate for the presidency. The ceremony of inducing Garfield into office with its

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## IN OUR TAPESTRY SECTION

It is our aim to bring out new things in Furniture Coverings as fast as the manufacturers create them. An old pattern in furniture covering on our shelves is just as undesirable as the partly worn cover you have become so tired of. We have just received several new patterns in Upholstery materials and we would suggest that there is no better time than the present to get your furniture "fixed up."

50 inches wide Tapestries, in Verdure and floral patterns, ranging in price from \$1.35 a yard for the domestic, to \$6.00 a yard for the imported fabric.

50 inches wide, Verd, Rep, Furniture and Drapery Material, ..... 73c a yard.

Hungarian Cloth and English Taffetas, 36-inch, for the inexpensive cover or slip, 30c & 35c a yd.

Fancy Cretonnes, this season's patterns, exceptionally attractive. For furniture coverings and slippers, also splendid pillow material. A yard ..... 45c to 93c

Real Mohair in Reds and Greens, nothing better to look at and extra good wearing material. Regular value \$4.00 a yard, ..... \$3.00 a yard.

We have competent men in our Upholstery department so it's easy for you to have your furniture made to look like new and you'll be surprised at the small price you'll be charged for the job. Our teams will call at your residence for the furniture and return it when completed free of charge. Estimates given upon request.

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accompaniments did not differ materially from previous functions of the kind.

In succeeding the martyred Garfield as the President, Chester A. Arthur twice took the oath of office. On receipt of the news of Garfield's death, he took the obligation at his home in New York city. Two days later the oath again was administered to him in Washington. In the vice president's room on the Senate side of the Capitol. His inaugural address was brief and was delivered in a room of comparatively few persons. No spectacular ceremonies attended his induction into office.

A perfect day characterized the first inauguration of Grover Cleveland. The crowd in attendance upon the ceremony was one of the greatest ever seen in Washington, and the parade was elaborate and magnificent.

The inauguration of President Harrison, while elaborate and beautiful in all of its arrangements, was attended by bad weather. A notable feature of the ceremony was his escort of honor, the Seventeenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which he had commanded in the Civil War. President Harrison delivered his inaugural address in a driving rain, being sheltered by an umbrella held by one of his war comrades.

## WORST WEATHER ON RECORD.

Not probably in the history of inaugural ceremonies has the weather ever been so bad as it was at the time of Cleveland's second induction into office. In a blizzard and rain, which was accompanied by a blizzard and rain, the day rain and sleet fell to the serious discomfort of all who participated in the ceremony.

On the contrary the day on which McKinley was inducted into office the first time was one of the most beautiful ever known. In a carriage drawn by ever black horses, he rode to the Capitol accompanied by Mr. Cleveland, Ohio's famous Black Horse Cavalry. The demonstration attendant upon the ceremony was magnificent, nearly forty thousand men being in the line of parade. His second inauguration, rain fell incessantly and many were the prophesies of ill, as a consequence. These prophesies came too true, for in the following September McKinley fell before the bullet of an assassin.

## ROOSEVELT'S INAUGURAL.

Following the death of McKinley at Buffalo, Theodore Roosevelt took the oath of office in the drawing room of John G. Milburn's residence in Buffalo. Present at the simple ceremony were the members of President McKinley's cabinet and about thirty others. Assuming the presidency in the shadow of a great national tragedy, no spectacular features were arranged by Mr. Roosevelt. He came to Washington on a special train and quietly and unostentatiously assumed, in this grief stricken city, the duties of his high office.

Later, in 1906, elected to the presidency in his own right by an overwhelming majority, Roosevelt again took the oath of office this time in the presence of a throng of quite one hundred thousand people on the east front of the Capitol. The day was lowering, but rain held off, and the inaugural parade following the ceremonies at the Capitol was one of the most beautiful and picturesque ever witnessed in this country.

## Water Taxes for MARCH are

able at the Water Office, No. 5, City Hall. Unless prompt payment is made, Five Per Cent. will be added to the bill, and the water will be cut off as provided in Section 33 of the Water Ordinance.

Office hours for the first ten days of March from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m.

Pay before the 10th and get your discount.

FRANK S. LANOU, Superintendent.

## AN OLD LAW IN A NEW LIGHT.

(From the Wall Street Journal.)

When the commercial mind becomes so enamored of stability as to fight against change there is no danger in sight. One form of danger is seen in the plea for stability of prices. If we were not in an age of scientific research, of technical discovery and of mechanical improvements, always reducing costs and requiring readjustment to the law of supply and demand on that account, we might well work for the maintenance of a stable level of prices. But as long as these forces of change and readjustment are at work it would seem like fighting against the stars in their courses to be persistently preaching stability of prices as the only salvation of business.

As well might we talk of stability of interest rates as the best means of distributing the supply of capital among the channels of enterprise. The fact is that with the growth of large-scale organization in industry, commerce and finance we have come to understand the value of competition. There is no greater mistake than that of assuming that we have reached the point in business evolution where competition has ceased to be essential.

Combination is here to stay, as is shown by Commissioner Smith's report on the absorption of 20 different concerns by the American Tobacco company, as well as by other facts with which the public is widely acquainted. But competition is universal and ever present, either actually or potentially. Combination is supplementary, but the spectacular cut in the prices of steel products shows that it is not supreme.

## THE BRIDGE WHIST MANIA.

(Continued.)

With the increase of luxury has come an exaggerated and almost morbid desire for increasing stimulus in recreation and amusement, and we have the bridge whist mania. This is neither more nor less than a disease, which has seized and twisted the moral focus of women until the employment in a scramble and game for prizes, of hours which God gave for work and development, appears proper and dignified to its victims; until the display of garments and furniture becomes more important than the building up of home and character. Bridge whist is only a game, but its advocates present a spectacle of morbid mind which is not only a feeling of indifference, and contentment too rapidly taking the place of the old-time civility for which our American men have been noted. The feeling of respect cannot exist where there is nothing to inspire it. If women who represent the social standard devote themselves to the attainment of skill in a form of amusement which, indulged in by a lower class, or outside of parlors, would be plainly denounced as gambling, they must not be surprised to see the reflection of their influence upon the character and manners of the other sex.

—From a Straight Talk, by Mrs. Newell Dwight Mills.

## MEN WHO CHEAT THEMSELVES.

I have known employees actually to work harder in securing, shirking, trying to keep from working hard in the performance of their duties, says Orion Sweet Marden, in "Success Magazine," than they would have worked if they had tried to do their best, and had given the largest, the most liberal service possible to their employers. The hardest work in the world is that which is grudgingly done.

The youth who is always hawking over the question of how many dollars and cents he will sell his services for little realizes how he is cheating himself by not looking at the larger salary he can pay himself in increasing his skill, in expanding his experience, and in making himself a better, stronger, more useful man.